



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
550 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.
Acting Director

DENNIS MURATA, M.S.W.
Acting Chief Deputy Director

RODERICK SHANER, M.D.
Medical Director

May 10, 2016

TO: Each Supervisor
Robin Kay, Ph.D.
FROM: Robin Kay, Ph.D.
Acting Director

SUBJECT: **ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO SOLE
SOURCE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH DEL AMO BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH SYSTEM OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

This memorandum is to comply with the Board of Supervisors Policy Manual, Section 5.100 Sole Source Contracts regarding contracting policy requirements for sole source contracts. It is the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (DMH) intent to enter into sole source contract negotiations with Del Amo Behavioral Health System of Southern California (Del Amo) to develop a psychiatric Urgent Care Center (UCC) in the Antelope Valley for individuals 13 years and older whose presenting problems can be met with short-term (under 24 hours) immediate care and linkage to ongoing community services and supports.

UCCs provide rapid access to mental health assessment, crisis intervention, and medication support twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week as well as case management and linkage to community-based resources for individuals experiencing psychiatric crisis. The UCC target population includes repetitive and frequent utilizers of psychiatric emergency and inpatient services, individuals at risk of incarceration due to low-level offenses resulting from or associated with their mental illness, adolescents at risk of removal from their out-of-home placements, individuals needing medication services, and individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.

There are currently four psychiatric UCCs in the County of Los Angeles (County) that are strategically located to decompress County hospital Psychiatric Emergency Services. Under the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act, also known as Senate Bill (SB) 82, DMH was awarded funding to establish three additional UCCs. On July 24, 2015, DMH released a Request for Proposals (RFP) Bid No. DMH07242015B1 for the development of the three UCCs in areas of the County that do not currently have a UCC: the Antelope Valley, the San Gabriel Valley, and the South Bay/Harbor areas. On August 10, 2015, an addendum to the RFP was issued to (1) the development of a fourth UCC to be funded by the County and (2) to additionally identify the Long Beach area.

DMH received proposals for the development of a UCC in all areas except for the Antelope Valley. Because DMH received no responses for the Antelope Valley, DMH contacted

Del Amo based on its years of experience treating adolescents and adults in psychiatric crisis in its acute psychiatric inpatient hospital. Del Amo has served the behavioral health needs of people living in the County since 1972. Currently, Del Amo operates a 166-bed private, free-standing in-patient psychiatric hospital in Torrance that provides comprehensive psychiatric assessment, crisis stabilization, relapse prevention, medication review, and rehabilitation for an array of psychiatric disorders. Services are provided to adults, adolescents, and children ages 6 and older. In addition, Del Amo operates a large adult outpatient hospitalization program in the city of Carson.

Based on the years of experience treating adolescents and adults in psychiatric crisis in its acute psychiatric inpatient hospital, Del Amo is well qualified to provide UCC services. Del Amo has expressed a willingness to provide such services and is actively searching for a location in the Antelope Valley.

Unless otherwise instructed by a Board office, DMH will proceed with negotiating a sole source contract within four weeks. DMH will work closely with both the Office of the County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Dennis Murata, Acting Chief Deputy Director, at (213) 738-4978.

RK:DM:MM:lq

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 Chief Executive Office
 County Counsel
 Mental Health Deputies
 Mental Health District Chiefs
 Dennis Murata, M.S.W.
 Mary Marx, L.C.S.W.
 Kimberly Nall
 Angel Baker